VZCZCXRO8465 OO RUEHLMC DE RUEHLM #0212 0581159 ZNR UUUUU ZZH O 271159Z FEB 08 FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7759 INFO RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0742 RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS PRIORITY RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 4276 RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 1870 RUEHNY/AMEMBASSY OSLO 4280 RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 3376 RUEHCG/AMCONSUL CHENNAI 8359 RUEHON/AMCONSUL TORONTO 0554 RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 2636 RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC RHEHAAA/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC RUEHLMC/MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION

UNCLAS COLOMBO 000212

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR SCA/INS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PGOV PREL PTER PHUM MOPS CE

SUBJECT: SRI LANKA: ABDUCTED CARE INTERNATIONAL LOCAL

EMPLOYEE IS RELEASED

REF: COLOMBO 207

11. (SBU) Country Director for CARE International in Sri Lanka Nick Osborne told Ambassador on February 27 that the CARE employee abducted on February 25 (reftel) called CARE-Colombo from an unidentified location in Kandy to report that he was safe and on his way to the CARE office in Ampara. The employee gave no details on how he got to Kandy, what had happened to him, or how he was getting to Ampara, but said he was alive and safe. Later that day, Osborne reported that the employee got off a public bus in Ampara, was met by local CARE staff, and taken to his home to be with his family. The employee does not appear to have suffered physical harm but has not spoken much. In consideration of his recent ordeal, CARE has yet not sought to de-brief him. Osborne expressed thanks for Embassy's assistance in this incident, and promised to provide further details of exactly what happened once they de-brief the employee. BLAKE